

In the 82d Congress,⁽¹⁷⁾ Joseph W. Martin, Jr., the Minority Leader, announced:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce to the House that the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Leslie C. Arends, has been elected Republican whip.

More recent announcements have been as follows:

MR. [JOHN B.] ANDERSON of Illinois: Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Republican Conference, I am directed by that conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as minority whip the gentleman from Illinois, the Honorable Leslie C. Arends.⁽¹⁸⁾

And in the 90th Congress:

Mr. [Melvin R.] Laird [of Wisconsin]: Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Republican Conference, I am directed by that conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as minority whip the gentleman from Illinois, the Honorable Leslie C. Arends.⁽¹⁹⁾

§ 7. —Nomination of House Officers

The Constitution⁽²⁰⁾ states that, "The House of Representatives

shall chuse their Speaker⁽¹⁾ and other Officers." Officers include the Clerk, Sergeant at Arms, Doorkeeper, Postmaster, and Chaplain,⁽²⁾ no one of whom has ever been chosen from the sitting Membership of the House, and who continue in office until their successors are chosen and qualified,⁽³⁾ in one case continuing through the entire Congress succeeding that in which they were elected.⁽⁴⁾

In practice, each party in its caucus or conference selects its candidates for election to the posts of Clerk, Sergeant at Arms, Doorkeeper, Postmaster, and Chaplain. The names of the persons selected as candidates are then presented to the House in the form of a resolution, usually offered by the caucus or conference chairman.⁽⁵⁾

It is customary for both parties to present their respective can-

17. 97 CONG. REC. 40, 82d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 4, 1951.
18. 115 CONG. REC. 34, 91st Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 3, 1969.
19. 113 CONG. REC. 27, 90th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 10, 1967.
20. U.S. Const. art. I, § 2.

1. As to selection by the caucus and conference of candidates for Speaker, see § 6, *supra*.
2. 1 Hinds' Precedents § 187.
3. *Id.*
4. 1 Hinds' Precedents §§ 244, 263. An amendment to the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 was enacted by the 83d Congress (2 USC § 75a-1) authorizing temporary appointments by the Speaker to fill vacancies in the offices of Clerk, Sergeant at Arms, Doorkeeper, Postmaster, or Chaplain.
5. See § 3.9, *supra*.

didates for House offices, the minority party candidates being presented in the form of a substitute amendment to the resolution offered by the chairman of the majority caucus.⁽⁶⁾ There have been exceptions, however; in the 89th Congress,⁽⁷⁾ no substitute amendment was offered, and the resolution offered by the caucus chairman pertaining to the election of the House officers was immediately agreed to.

A Democratic Caucus rule⁽⁸⁾ provides that, "In the Election of Officers and in the Nomination of Candidates for Office in the House, a Majority of Those Present and Voting Shall Bind the Membership, of the Caucus."

Nomination Procedure

§ 7.1 The names of the majority party's candidates for House offices are presented to the House by resolution, and a substitute resolution is usually offered by the minority party naming that party's candidates for the offices.

6. The proceedings relating to the election of House officers are discussed in detail in § 3.9, *supra*. See also Ch. 6.

7. 111 CONG. REC. 20, 89th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 4, 1965.

8. Rule 6, Democratic Caucus Rules (July 20, 1971).

On Jan. 3, 1969,⁽⁹⁾ the Chairman of the Democratic Caucus offered a resolution naming selections for Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, Doorkeeper, Postmaster, and Chaplain. The Chairman of the Republican Conference asked for a division on the question on the resolution so as to have a separate vote on the office of Chaplain; that portion of the resolution providing for the election of Chaplain was then agreed to. The Chairman of the Republican Conference then offered a substitute amendment to the remainder of the resolution, naming different persons to the posts; the substitute amendment was rejected, the original agreed to.⁽¹⁰⁾

§ 8. —Creation of Party Committees

The main party organizations in the House, the caucus and the conference, have from time to time delegated some of their functions to smaller party committees. Generally, the creation of, and the determination of membership on, such specialized committees are in large measure functions of the caucus or conference.

9. 115 CONG. REC. 34, 91st Cong. 1st Sess.

10. See also § 3.9, *supra*.